



ALUMNUS OF THE MONTH

APRIL 2026



Joshua Lewis

I studied Media, Business and English Language at A-level because ultimately my mother urged me to choose subjects that kept my options open as I didn't quite know what career I wanted to pursue. My real interests were music, art, geography and history, but I opted to make those a large part of my personal life instead – though I do sometimes wish I had the courage to pursue what I was passionate about. After chatting with an ex-girlfriend who was studying Politics, I decided to study Politics and International Relations at the University of Southampton — one of the best decisions I've ever made. The course was fascinating, I made lifelong friends and even got to spend five months studying abroad in Perth, Australia in my 3rd year (life changing experience).

After graduating with a 2:1, I worked six months as a credit control officer at the Royal Bank of Scotland to save for travel, I then spent nine months backpacking the Australian east coast with my best friend from Uni. Later, a friend from home offered me work experience at an insurance brokerage in London. It sounded BORING at first, but I loved it. Corporate insurance turned out to be a brilliant fit: varied work, loads and loads of social interaction, travel opportunities, and a very strong earning potential for those who work hard.

In between jobs, I then travelled around New Zealand for 18 months and visited parts of Southeast Asia on the way home — experiences that really grounded me and taught me what life is truly about (relationships, interactions, the present moment, adventure). Since returning, I've now been an insurance broker at Marsh, the world's largest insurance brokerage, for six years and have recently completed a 2½-month secondment in Bermuda at the end of 2025. Looking back I was always stressing about choosing the right path for my career, but there are so many opportunities to chop and change, and nothing is set in stone, it only takes the courage to go for what you want.

Quote to live by: "Ask and it will be given to you, seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." – Jesus of Nazareth

PROFILE:

NAME: Joshua Lewis

JOB: Staffing Operations

SUBJECTS studied at A

LEVEL: Business Studies, Media Studies and English Language

What next? University of Southampton BSc Politics and International Relations

YEAR left STM: 2012